



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

The Northwest basketball team celebrates its NCAA Division II Central Regional title after earning a 82-70 victory over Missouri Southern at Bearcat Arena March 19. The Bearcats will head to the Elite Eight in Evansville, Indiana, March 27.

## AS EXPECTED

Bearcats remain undefeated, advance to Elite Eight

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21



Northwest men's basketball trailed Missouri Southern by seven points nearly 10 minutes into the NCAA Central Region Championship at Bearcat Arena March 19, and the Bearcats were in desperate need of a spark.

Sophomore forward Ryan Hawkins, to that point, had carried the Bearcats on his back, scoring all 11 of the team's 11 points. On the biggest stage of the season thus far, Hawkins had already stepped up.

With Northwest trailing 18-11, and Hawkins' team leaning on him heavily, the sophomore leaped further.

Hawkins grabbed an offensive rebound after a missed three by freshman guard Trevor Hudgins and converted a layup for his and the Bearcats' 13th point of the game. The play, at the time, seemed inconsequential, but the sequence helped ignite Northwest's offense, leading to an 82-70 win for the Bearcats over Southern.

"I thought the thing that really set (us) off was, there was a big offensive rebound," coach Ben McCollum said in reference to the play. "I thought that kind of got us going a little bit. After that, we just defended our butts off. Just an absolutely fantastic effort by our kids."

The win clinched the Central Region Championship for Northwest and secured the team a spot in

the Elite Eight for the second time in three years. Hawkins finished the game with 28 points, the highest output of his career.

"(Hawkins) just found himself opened, and he stepped up and knocked it down," McCollum said. "There was no better time for him to have one of those games that he had tonight. He was absolutely fantastic."

Throughout Northwest's first two games of the NCAA tournament, the team was led by senior swingman Joey Witthus and freshman guard Trevor Hudgins. Against Southern, the narrative changed.

Witthus and Hudgins were both silenced by Southern's defense for much of the first half. In their place, Hawkins and junior forward

### UP NEXT

**Northwest vs Mercyhurst**  
2:30 p.m. March 27  
Evansville, Indiana

Ryan Welty shined. Both Hawkins and Welty, of course, chalked up their solid performances to their teammates.

"I think our guards were doing a good job of getting paint," Hawkins said. "(I was) just relocating for those easy layups, so, credit to them. Just playing with energy."

SEE BASKETBALL | A11

4.8

percent increase to undergraduate tuition

Vice President of Finance Stacy Carrick said during the meeting the University's net price for tuition is in the lowest one-third of its peer group. Carrick said the University focuses on two key philosophies: protecting affordability and preserving the quality of learning.

SEE TUITION | A5

## Midwest affected by floods

KATIE STEVENSON  
Community News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

After record snowfall and rain storms, the Midwest is experiencing historic flooding throughout Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri.

Smaller rivers throughout the midwest have flooded and fed into the Missouri River which is flooded as well. According to The New York Times, this has led Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin all to declare a national state of emergency.

According to KSNB Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Nebraska News, the American Red Cross is operating 22 shelters across Nebraska with a population of more than 660 people. Approximately 300 people have been rescued along with roughly 30 pets.

According to CNN, as of March 19, four people had been killed in Nebraska and Iowa and two others were still missing.

Junior Mackenzie Daffer from Percival, Iowa, said her family was forced to leave their home due to the flooding and is now staying with family friends.

"Our house is currently surrounded by water, but thankfully, no water is in it," Daffer said. "It is too close for comfort though. Our horses are all taken care of, and we're very thankful we had time to get our valuable and meaningful things out."

According to Fox 4 Kansas City, Missouri, as of March 19, the Missouri State Highway Patrol had closed I-29 at mile marker 56, which is only four miles north of St. Joseph, Missouri.

According to Google Public Alerts, the flooding stage for St. Joseph, Missouri, is 17 feet and the Missouri River is expected to rise to nearly 28.9 feet by March 21 and fall back into normal range by March 27.

Senior Maddison Haynes, from La Vista, Nebraska, said while her house is in a safe area, the towns around her are flooding.

SEE FLOODING | A5

## Regents vote to raise tuition

RACHEL ADAMSON  
Campus News Editor | @rachadamsonn

The Northwest Board of Regents approved a proposal to raise undergraduate tuition and change the graduate tuition model for 2019-20 at its regular meeting March 14 in the J.W. Jones Union Boardroom.

Undergraduate tuition was approved a 4.8 percent increase. This percentage is based on the Higher Education Student Funding Act allowable rates that account for an increase in the Consumer Price Index and declining state appropriations.

Tuition will increase by an estimated average net price of \$394 for undergraduate in-state students and \$592 for undergraduate out-of-state students based on enrollment in 30 credit hours for the academic year.

## Sorority sees membership spike

RACHEL ADAMSON  
Community News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

Inaudible chants were heard coming from the south end of campus as friends and family stood, some holding red, black and white balloons, waiting to welcome the new members of Delta Sigma Theta Nu Gamma.

As the initiates, dressed in mostly crimson, approached, the crowd could hear them chanting "I want to be a Delta, you ask the question why. We try, and we try, and we try, oh Lord. We try, and we try and try. We want to be a Delta bad."

The Spring 2019 Neophyte Presentation welcomed six new members to Nu Gamma March 17 at the Bell Tower. Nu Gamma now has nine active members, making the chapter the largest it has been since 1976.

Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated is a not-for-profit organization, providing support to its predominantly black sorority members.

The new initiates were sophomore Tamia Goode, junior Alicia Trotter and seniors Cynthia Williams-Marshall, Jordyn Wood, Kianna Harvey and Imani Jones. The presentation went on for about 40 minutes and is how the initiates come out to the campus.

"I've been wanting to be a Delta for a long time, to have all of this come to a reality is a dream come true," Harvey said. "I can't really believe that it's happening right now; it will probably kick in in a few weeks."

This semester is Nu Gamma's second semester being back since reactivation in 2018. Nu Gamma President senior N'ninah Freelon and two others reactivated Nu Gamma after receiving approval



RACHEL ADAMSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Delta Sigma Theta Nu Gamma President, senior N'ninah Freelon, watches new initiates during the Spring 2019 Neophyte Presentation March 17 in front of the J.W. Jones Student Union.

from the national chapter.

"We want to be heard. We want to make sure that we are recognized on campus," Freelon said. "I don't want to be just known about to our black community."

Since being founded in 1976 at Northwest, Nu Gamma has been reactivated twice.

Nu Gamma was not active on campus from 1977-2003. It was active for 14 years after that until 2016 when no initiates remained after graduation.

Delta Sigma Theta Lambda Mu alumna Tammy May, who pledged in spring 1990 at Southern Arkansas University, attended the presentation on campus.

"I am proud to see the sister-

hood and the bond that is being formed," May said. "It will be life-long friendships and working for public service and sisterhood."

Nu Gamma was nominated as Organization of the Year for Northwest Awards and Recognition Ceremony April 8, a first for Nu Gamma.

Freelon was nominated as a homecoming candidate. Freelon said in Northwest's history only one black woman has been on homecoming court.

"That's huge, not only for my chapter but for the black community as well," Freelon said. "The fact that I might be able to have the opportunity to be on the court is super big."

Starting the spring semester with

just three members, Freelon said she has had tunnel vision working to make Nu Gamma successful.

Freelon said tripling Nu Gamma's size has a lot to do with her platform and involvement on campus. Freelon is a student ambassador, vice president of National Pan-Hellenic Council, works as a desk assistant in the Office of Student Involvement and previously served on the executive board of Northwest Dance Company.

"When people think of Deltas, I want them to think that they are women on this campus that hold themselves of high-esteem," Freelon said. "That they work hard to get things done and they get to where they want to be."

SEE FLOODING | A5



SUBMITTED

Sophomore Bryana Jones accepts the Lonnae Young Influential Student Award presented by Young's father David Dawson (far left), Young's mother Marie Dawson (left) and President Jasinski (right) March 15.

## Award pays tribute to Lonnae Young

KEJI AKINMOLADUN  
Chief Reporter | @OluwatoyinKeji

In honor of Women's History Month, the University held the Influential Women of Northwest awards ceremony, with special recognition to junior Lonnae Young.

The awards ceremony was March 15 on the first floor of the B.D. Owens Library. There were three award categories: Influential Women of Northwest Staff Award, Influential Women of Northwest Faculty Award and the Influential Student of Northwest Lonnae Young Award.

Young was a residential assistant and a member of Sigma Society who died unexpectedly Feb. 16. The University decided to name the student award after Young. The award will be given to a student every year in her honor.

The Influential Student of Northwest Award was given to two students, Young and sophomore Bryana Jones.

Associate professor Elyssa Ford said Young was an influential student because she made an impact on others.

"Lonnae is someone who almost everyone on campus knew, and she

was someone who would qualify for this award regardless because of the influence she had and the things she has done here," Ford said.

Young's family attended the ceremony and accepted the award on her behalf. Young's mother, Marie Dawson, gave a speech during the ceremony and recognized the students who were nominated for the Lonnae Young Student Award.

Dawson said during her speech that Young was an introvert and would've been overwhelmed by the emotions throughout the ceremony.

"Lonnae was not the emotional type of person," Dawson said. "She would just be like 'Oh, my God, that's too many emotions in one room.' Lonnae was not the type of person who looked for people to boost and pump her up. She was OK with doing what she did and going on with that."

Dawson said her family is appreciative of Northwest naming the student award after Young.

"Our family is overjoyed and proud. We feel like Lonnae gave her all," Dawson said. "Countless times when students were home enjoying their families, Lonnae sacrificed and stayed at school. Lonnae would walk

through campus when there was no one really there and she would stay in the building and work extra hours, so I think she was very deserving of that award."

Dawson said she was proud of Young and all of her accomplishments.

"Lonnae was a wonderful child and goal-driven. She had her whole life planned out," Dawson said. "I'm just proud I was able to be her mother and enjoy her love and the wonderful person that she was."

Sigma Society President junior Holly Hartfield was a nominee for the Lonnae Young Student Award. Hartfield said Young's award was based on people who spoke highly of her.

"The award was about someone who pushes people to step out of their comfort zones," Hartfield said. "Someone who encourages other women to excel in their field and in other areas. She did everything to make everyone else happy and everything she could to encourage everybody to do something good in their day."

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

## Organization to host first 5K

SAMANTHA COLLISON  
Chief Reporter | @SammieCollison

The Behavioral Sciences Association will host the first I Will Listen 5K at 9 a.m. April 13 to raise awareness for mental health issues and support the I Will Listen campaign.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness created the I Will Listen campaign to encourage friends and families of those with mental illnesses to listen and support without judgment, according to the I Will Listen website.

The No-Headphones 5K encourages runners and walkers to interact with volunteers and each other to start open dialogues about mental health.

BSA President senior Lauren Buck said BSA hosted an I Will Listen event her freshman year with speakers and bands, and the group was hoping to create a similar event with the 5K.

"The event was a big hit, and since then, we have always wanted to do another event but kept pushing it off," Buck said. "We all really love the I Will Listen campaign and the message along with it: listen to those around you. This is a great campaign to promote and bring awareness to."

The 5K will start and end at Raymond J. Courter Park, looping around campus and concluding at a village featuring booths hosted by sponsors and student organizations including Helping Everyone Regardless of Orientation, To Write Love on Her Arms and Sigma Society.

Along the race path, signs will be posted to inform runners about mental health and wellness.

"Our goal for this event is for people to have fun and learn more about mental health and wellness," Buck said. "We want to bring awareness to how much society should talk to one another and not be afraid to seek help for mental health or talk about it."

BSA Vice President senior Kristen Johnson said the best part about planning the 5K has been net-

working with sponsors and student organizations.

"I have been at Northwest for almost 5 years, and I've heard a lot of names but I have never had an opportunity to meet them," Johnson said. "Those I have met have been really great people. I love being thrown into situations where I can talk to new people, share stories about the BSA and connect with other students as well."

Johnson said the biggest challenges have come from the logistics of this being the first 5K BSA has hosted.

"We have certain things we need to make sure are done, but the order in which we do them gets confusing," Johnson said. "For example, we need to get donations from Hy-Vee, but they need to know how many people we are going to have register before donating. There are just things that are hard to get done when they rely on other things as well."

With all executive members and many other members graduating this semester or in the fall, Johnson said she is looking forward to seeing how many people participate in the 5K and whether the event will boost membership.

"The BSA had a few semesters in the past where we weren't doing as much as we should have been, and that cost our memberships," Johnson said. "We are pretty low on attendance to meetings now, but we are doing everything we can to make sure as many people as possible know about this event and feel included in participating."

Buck said students, staff, faculty and community members should participate in the 5K or volunteer to help run it because everyone knows someone who needs support in their mental health journey.

"Everyone needs a shoulder to lean on, but people are scared to talk about it or get help," Buck said. "We are doing this event to help encourage and support people to reach out to their friends, family or even strangers to check up on them and to help one another."

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March 21, 2019

# Use tax set to make ballot comeback

**MASON BIGLER**  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

An educational forum about the use tax was held March 13 in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom.

The use tax was rejected by voters on the November ballot with a 55 to 45 percent vote. The tax will be making a comeback on the April 2 ballot.

If passed, the tax would put a 2.375 percent tax on online purchases. Portions of the money received from the use tax would be put toward road maintenance and eventually road improvement.

One important piece of information that City Manager Greg McDanel said what should be remembered is the relation between the use tax and the Maryville sales tax.

"(The use tax) is not a double tax, one or the other," McDanel said. "It is always the same rate as the sales tax, so if this community says 'We are not going to support a local sales tax initiative anymore; we are going to let that sunset and go off the books' so the local sales tax rate decreases, the use tax automatically decreases, if we add to that, it automatically adds."

Toward the end of the presentation, McDanel addressed the students and said that student involvement in community activities and voting is of high importance.

"You are a citizen of Maryville," McDanel said. "You can volunteer,

you can come to city council meetings, you can get engaged, you are a citizen of this community, and with that, you can vote here on local issues."

One example McDanel gave of the importance of student involvement was a project that passed due to only five votes in its favor, McDanel said these five votes were likely made by Northwest students.

The project mentioned was the conference center at Mozingo Lake. The old clubhouse was renovated to be bigger and include more amenities, becoming the conference center it is now.

After the main section of the presentation was finished, McDanel opened the forum up for questions from the audience. One audience member asked McDanel about road maintenance, where the money came from and how the use tax would affect these.

"On a winter like this year, we spend \$100,000 on potholes in January and February," McDanel said. "The use tax will provide additional support to those and recapture that revenue that is already leaving, those funding sources going to online sales and out-of-state sources."

After the forum, junior Keegan Dolinar said he felt the use tax was a good idea and had his vote.

"I think it is going to do really good things for the community, and I am really glad I can be a part of this to help out," Dolinar said.



JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN

**Maryville City Manager Greg McDanel speaks at an educational forum about the use tax March 13 in the J.W. Jones Student Union. The tax will appear on the April 2 ballot.**

Freshman Cooper Finnium also shared his opinion about the tax.

"I think (the use tax) could be really beneficial to the people," Finnium said. "I mean, coming from my perspective, it obviously will not do anything that major

for me because I will only be here for like three more years, but for the city, it will probably do a lot."

Finnium also said he felt students could make a difference in city politics.

"Considering that students here

are a huge demographic, I do not feel like enough students actually vote for it to be effective," Finnium said. "If all college students did vote, then yeah, it would be a huge change. I mean, what is it, there is like 7,000 kids on campus."

## Nodaway County sheriff conducts meth bust

**KATIE STEVENSON**

Community News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

The Nodaway County Sheriff's Office arrested a methamphetamine dealer March 15 at 515 E. Seventh St.

Nodaway County Sheriff Randy Strong said an undercover investigation was opened after they received word from several individuals that Maryville resident Cody Masser was distributing meth throughout Maryville and Nodaway County.

"We went to work at trying to make some controlled drug buys from him," Strong said. "We made three (buys), which is kind of a guarantee to show that we are not coercing him to do something he wouldn't do normally."

After making the buys, Strong said they received a search warrant

to gather evidence against Masser.

"We went to Mr. Masser's residence, and once we got inside there, Mr. Masser was taken into custody on probable cause for distribution of narcotics, specifically methamphetamine," Strong said.

Strong said Masser was charged with a Class D felony for three counts of the distribution of methamphetamine.

"Once we found some evidence in the apartment that field-tested positive for methamphetamines and some smoking apparatuses, the prosecutor gave us an arrest warrant that was signed by the judge."

While Missouri used to be regarded as the drug capital of the United States with meth being the top drug of choice, according to WalletHub.com, Missouri is now ranked No. 2 for drug use.

Strong said meth is still a drug of choice for many throughout Nodaway County and has gone through a number of changes.

"I've been doing a little bit longer than 40 years, and back when I started, we saw some homemade pills that were pretty common, referred to as 'white crosses,' which was an amphetamine," Strong said. "Eventually, we started to see what was called methamphetamine, which was being injected."

Strong said the way in which the drug was made has also undergone a number of changes throughout the years.

"We saw it coming in back in the day when you had to be a chemist to make it, the P2P (phenyl-2-propanone) labs those were called, and then that evolved into the small shake and bake labs and

that kind of drug Missouri out to be the meth lab of the United States," Strong said.

Strong said Missouri became a leader in meth production because the ingredients needed to make the drug were easily attainable.

"The ingredients used to make it were pretty readily available, especially in agricultural areas, because you use anhydrous ammonia, which they would take out of farm tanks and then go buy the pseudoephedrine-based cold pills at the pharmacy," Strong said.

While meth is still heavily present throughout Missouri, it is no longer being made in labs. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the last lab seizure in Nodaway County was in 2011.

Strong said this is because a majority of the meth seen in the

United States is imported from Mexico.

"The Mexican Cartel starting targeting the United States with pure methamphetamine," Strong said. "It has a distinct appearance to it; they call it 'ice,' and really that is about all we see anymore. It is really, really rare to come across a meth lab, whereas we used to find them all the time."

Strong said he encourages people to report anyone they may believe is selling drugs.

"If people have concerns about a neighbor or somebody that they know or suspect is maybe distributing drugs, and you can tell that by the in-and-out traffic and maybe the individuals going in and out," Strong said. "They can call us, and we'd be glad to check it out, and they can do so anonymously."

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## OUR VIEW:

## Midwest flood victims need national relief

When California was rampaged by wildfires earlier this school year, we sent aid. When Florida got hit by a hurricane two years ago, we rallied around them. Now, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri are asking for help.

Despite media attention from CNN, who is staked out in a flooded St. Joseph, Missouri, and Vice President Mike Pence flying out to Nebraska on Tuesday, very little help from outside the Midwest has been sent. It is up to us to fend for ourselves.

The only aid the region has received is from the Red Cross and National Guard, who can only do so much.

According to KSNB Local the "American Red Cross is operating 22 shelters, with a population of 660 people" in total. The Nebraska Task Force One Urban Search and Rescue team has also been called and rescued more than 16 people. Keep in mind, this force wasn't used in the region's last major flood in 2011.

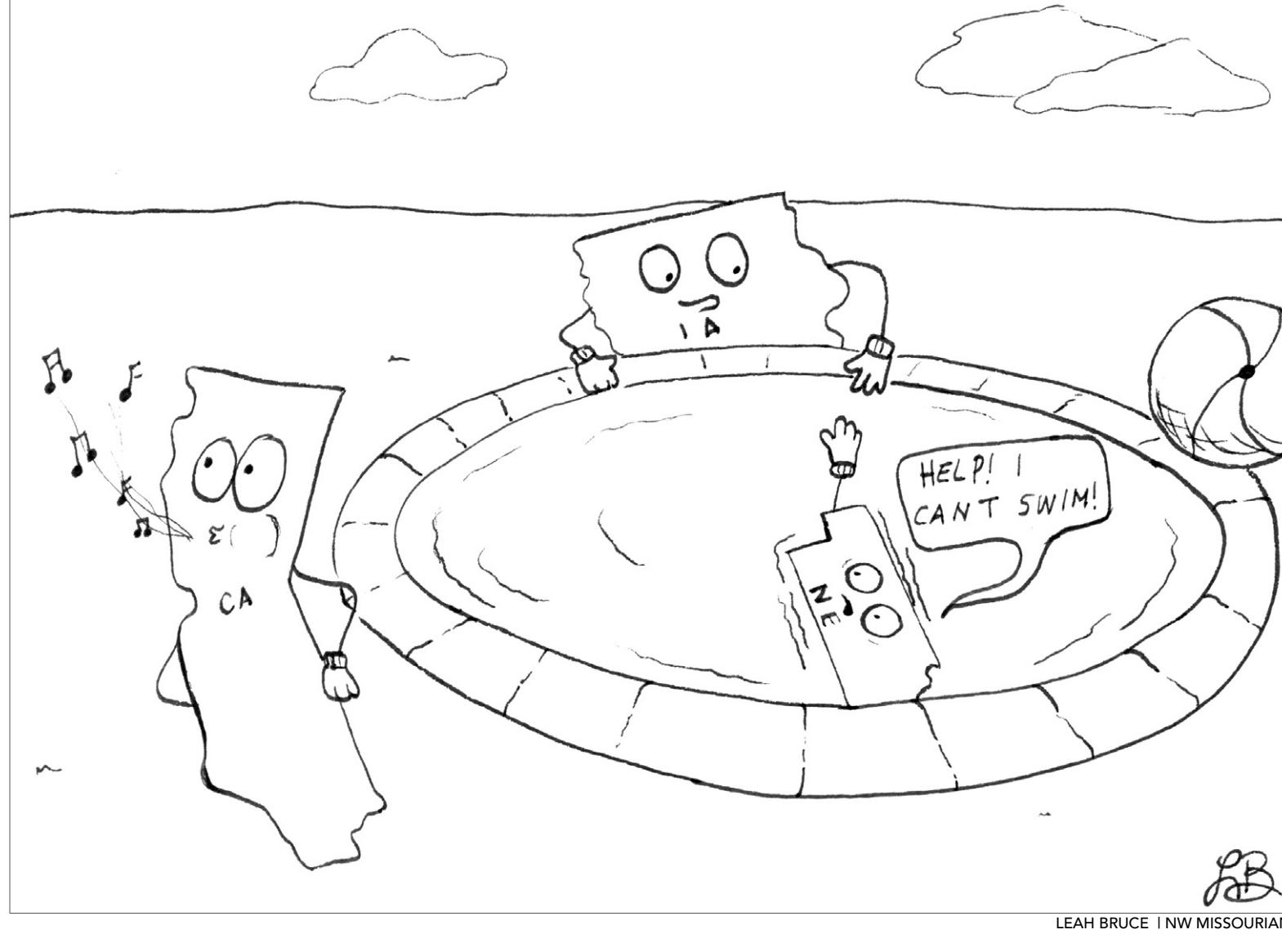
The Midwest has not seen large scale disasters like this since the Joplin Tornado and the Mississippi River flood, both in 2011.

Both Nebraska and Iowa have declared national states of emergency as water levels rise to dangerous levels, having already killed four people and two more missing.

Steve Hespen, the sheriff of Nebraska's Dodge County, told NPR that several levees were breached in the region he patrols.

Iowa's Governor Kim Reynolds said 41 of Iowa's 99 counties are included in the disaster declaration.

Northwest has been affected by this flood as many students come from Nebraska and Iowa.



LEAH BRUCE | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior Mackenzie Daffer is a resident of Percival, Iowa. She said this is more than a "slight inconvenience."

"I think people should know that this really is a disaster and

that people really need help," Daffer said. "It's not just a slight inconvenience that you hear about and then go on with your day. People's lives are at stake. People are prideful and feeling vulnerable and

aren't thinking about actually asking for help. Just be a light in these people's lives and help, I promise you they won't say no."

Student Senate is raising money and collecting supplies such as drink-

ing water for victims of the flooding.

Tau Kappa Epsilon is also raising money to help those affected.

The university and Mozingo Lake are providing housing and space for victims.

## Cost of spring break is too much



people being arrested on drug-related charges as well as 46 arrests for carrying a concealed weapon.

A study carried out by the real estate service Area Vibes said that within a given year there are approximately 7,038 crimes per 100,000 people in Panama City.

This does not include a breakdown of larceny and the total cost of items stolen from college students while traveling.

A report from Crime Data states an average 1,587 burglaries were committed per 100,000 people in Panama City. This data takes into account the number of visitors in the city as well as how many people commute to Panama City in a given year.

The cost of replacing stolen items can be taxing on a college student's budget when on average a college student pays at least \$400 for a decent laptop or even textbooks to get through their academic courses.

It is much more effective to go home and have a day trip to major cities near home. Not only are you traveling and having fun, but you are also supporting the national economy and keeping money at home instead of spending money in a different country.

In the article from Skyscanner, it became abundantly clear that the number of people traveling to these locations also supports a healthy local economy, infusing much-needed capital in the local market which is eventually dispersed to the community and the national economy through the collection of taxes.

Students need to save money and be fiscally responsible instead of blowing it all away on expensive drinks and tans on the beach. While it may not be the warmest place to visit, staying here allows a student to save so much money.

The cost of trips like this is unreasonable. The better economic option is driving home and saving thousands of dollars. While going home may not be fun, it protects a student's bank account from a weekend of partying and bad decisions.

Even just planning a day trip to places like Omaha, Nebraska, or Kansas City, Missouri, costs about a third of the price to visit places like Cabo.

An additional benefit of not traveling is protecting students from the general increase of crime rates in these spring break destinations.

In a 2017 article from the Panama City News Herald, the local police department responded to 16,931 service calls between March 1 and April 16, which is considered to be the prime spring break season. These calls resulted in 210

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Black Student Union multifaceted

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in reference to the article written about the creation of the Black Student Union.

I personally feel the article did not articulate the educational component the Black Student Union offers. The purpose of BSU is to provide educational opportunities, enhance political and cultural aware-

ness for ALL students, and provide a place where students can gather to discuss and learn about issues concerning our black student population.

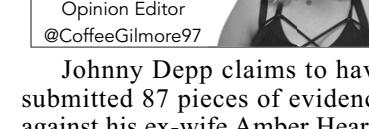
As we strive to create an inclusive campus, we must empower all of our students to be aware of their cultural identity while opening up to learn about other cultures around them on a daily basis.

This group, like all other stu-

dent groups, was not built to segregate, but to create integration and cross-cultural learning between all students. I hope future articles regarding Multicultural Student Organizations will look at the educational opportunities for all students and not just the racial aspect/component of the student group.

Justin Mallet

## Abused men need same support, platform as others



CORIE HERTZOG

Opinion Editor

@CoffeeGilmore97

Johnny Depp claims to have submitted 87 pieces of evidence against his ex-wife Amber Heard, stating he is the victim of abuse. Sadly, no one seems to care.

Male victims of abuse, be it physical, mental or sexual, are often left out of the conversation surrounding abuse and how to fix the problem. In many cases, they are dismissed or looked at with more suspicion than their female counterparts.

With men, they sometimes are forced to wonder if they are a victim or an abuser. According to the Mayo Clinic, abusers will often manipulate the situation to fit their narrative.

"It's common for survivors of domestic violence to act out verbally or physically against the abuser, yelling, pushing or hitting him or her during conflicts," the website

said. "The abuser may use such incidents to manipulate you, describing them as proof that you are the abusive partner."

For some victims, particularly men, it's difficult to even tell if they are even in an abusive relationship.

"If you're having trouble identifying what's happening, take a step back and look at larger patterns in your relationship," the Mayo Clinic website said. "Then, review the signs of domestic violence. In an abusive relationship, the person who routinely uses these behaviors is the abuser. The person on the receiving end is being abused."

Even if you're still not sure, seek help. Intimate partner violence causes physical and emotional damage — no matter who is at fault."

The fact Depp's situation isn't making headlines like when Heard accused him of abuse is detrimental to male advocates and movements like #MeToo.

During the start of #MeToo movement many men, famous and ordinary, came forward about

abuse, harassment and objectification they faced, but were met with rejection and ridicule. One of the more famous incidents of this was when "Game of Thrones" star Kit Harington came forward about a type of objectification in the film industry. He was then pushed to apologize for his comments.

I wonder if his wife, "Game of Thrones" co-star, Rose Leslie, would have faced the same backlash if she said women were objectified in Hollywood. My guess would be no.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, one in four men has been physically abused by an intimate partner.

However, despite how large of a problem this is, people just don't seem to care as much and even find humor in the abuse of men.

A U.K. social experiment conducted in 2017, found people are more likely to step in if the victim is a woman.

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March 21, 2019

A5

## NEWS JUMPS

**TUITION**  
CONTINUED FROM A1

"The tuition increase allows us to ensure that we provide a quality program and are taking care of our people that are teaching in the classroom and staff that are providing support to our students in their various offices," Carrick said. "If we hadn't done that, we would have been looking at different types of deductions and things that we would have had to do to balance the budget."

Graduate tuition was approved to shift the tuition model from resident/non-resident to differentiated program pricing.

"Instead of pricing our product all the same across programs, today we differentiated by resident vs. non-resident, what you're seeing in the graduate side of the world is differentiating by program," Carrick said.

The tuition proposal presented to the Board of Regents passed with six votes in favor and two in opposition.

"We are at a level amount of

state appropriations from a year ago; we're at a roughly stable amount of enrollment," Board of Regent member Jason Klindt said. "If we are having to raise tuition as much as we are this year given those factors, I worry about a year when things are more dire."

Carrick said there will be no increase to any designated fees related to technology and textbooks or room and board.

The price for meal plans will increase an average of 2.5 percent. This figure is based on CPI along with the University's contract with third-party vendors.

Carrick said during the meeting that 97 percent of full-time freshmen receive some sort of financial assistance and that 34 percent of the University's budget is targeted to student scholarships.

"It's looking at what's in the best interest of our students, looking at the model of what makes sense to ensure we're providing the right services and quality programs," Carrick said.

**Student Senate extends elections**

**SAMANTHA COLLISON**  
Chief Reporter | @SammieCollison

Student Senate expanded outreach efforts in response to a lack of student interest in running for the 30 open positions on Student Senate for the 2019-20 school year.

Each fall, all elected positions, including 16 class representatives, five on-campus representatives, five off-campus representatives and four executive members must be reelected. While most senators are seeking reelection, many positions will stand vacant if no new candidates run.

Election Commissioner senior Drake Summers extended election informational meetings another week, adding seven meetings. Any students interested in running for a Student Senate position must attend an informational meeting to be eligible.

Although students must have at least two semesters of Student Senate experience in order to run for executive positions, all other representatives need no previous experience.

"It's less about your experience, and about your dedication and willingness to be open to new ideas, be

willing to serve the student population and be ready to take action," Summers said. "Those are the people who are going to be the best at being senators."

Summers said he hoped advertising for longer and reaching out to faculty, especially in the social sciences, would attract more students to the opportunity.

"We just want to be able to broaden the spectrum a little bit," Summers said. "It never hurts to gain new experiences and new ideas through people. It's not that we don't want people to get reelected, but we also want to make sure everyone has the opportunity as well."

Summers said Student Senate reached out to social sciences students, political science majors especially because student government is a stepping stone toward running for public office and provides comparable skill training to students.

Student Senate President senior Alyssa Lincoln said political science majors are especially valuable senators.

"Political science students are

super important to the success of student government," Lincoln said. "They're some of our most influential senators, so we really try and target political science courses and the humanities as a whole."

Lincoln said there are some students who engage with the Student Senate Twitter in high school and come to Northwest for Student Senate or with running for a position in mind.

Although Student Senate can be a larger time commitment for students with weekly meetings, committee participation and volunteering, Lincoln said everyone knows leaders on campus who are fit for the job, but they just need the push to attend their first meeting.

"I think Senate can be daunting; it can be scary, but those that really invest in Senate would all agree that they've had an overwhelmingly positive experience," Lincoln said.

"The connections that you get to make, the inner workings that you get to know, the people that you get to connect with, all of those opportunities are so profound and life-changing."



NATI HARNIK | AP PHOTO

Gabe Schmidt, owner of Liquid Trucking, top right, travels by air boat with Glenn Wyles, top left, Mitch Snyder, bottom left, and Juan Jacobo, bottom right, as they survey damage from the flood waters of the Platte River, in Plattsmouth, Neb., Sunday, March 17, 2019. Hundreds of people remained out of their homes in Nebraska, but rivers there were starting to recede. The National Weather Service said the Elkhorn River remained at major flood stage but was dropping.

**FLOODING**  
CONTINUED FROM A1

help. I want more to help; it is needed so much."

Haynes said her hometown has leaped into action to help the flood victims around them.

"Companies have opened up space to collect donations or donated themselves," Haynes said. "It's been amazing to see those around me not directly affected by flooding jump into action so selflessly to help those around them. If people can't donate items, they're donating time and manual labor to help."

Cejka said she and her friends from Nebraska have created an information network to keep each other up-to-date with the ongoing flooding.

"I have many Nebraska friends who have worked together to keep each other updated on what roads are closed, which areas have been evacuated, and the possible ways we can get home for break," Cejka said.

Daffer said members of the community have jumped into action to help her and her family.

"Some of my old coaches in Sidney (Iowa) came with trucks and trailers and got my family out ASAP Friday," Daffer said. "Some of my mom's coworkers donated money to our family; I haven't had to make or pay for a meal since Thursday last week. The support keeps pouring out just when you think it's getting tougher. I am very thankful for that."

Daffer said while she has some people to support her at Northwest, most do not realize how bad the flooding really is.

"It feels like a different world," Daffer said. "I've had people get a hold of me asking me how I'm doing and how my family is."

Haynes said the idea of Northwest as a family has really shone through during this tragedy.

"There are so many people at Northwest who have reached out to make sure my family and house is OK," Haynes said. "I've been concerned about even being able to get back home with all the road closures, and my friend immediately said if I need a place to go I can come to her house."

Haynes said she wants anyone affected to know that their fellow Bearcats are here for them.

"We feel for you. Reach out to your friends for help," Haynes said. "At the end of the day, things are just things and can be replaced, but always hold your loved ones close and be thankful they are safe."

Daffer said she encourages others being affected by the flooding to focus on the positives to help get them through the tragedy.

"I would say that I understand how they are feeling, and it's OK to cry, but as soon as you let it out, you got to be strong for those around you," Daffer said. "If everyone helps everyone, the job will get done. Help others and remember that it's all materialistic things, just be thankful that you and your family is OK."

Haynes said she encourages everyone to be thinking of their fellow students as they deal with this hardship.

"This is right before spring break, and a lot of people won't have homes to go back to during this time," Haynes said. "Families have lost their whole livelihoods. I think this is a time to pull together as a community and help those affected by the floods."

Daffer said everyone needs to be aware of what is currently going on and lend a hand when they can.

"I think people should know that this really is a disaster and that people really need help," Daffer said. "It's not just a slight inconvenience that you hear about and then go on with your day. People's lives are at stake. People are prideful and feeling vulnerable and aren't thinking about actually asking for help. Just be a light in these people's lives and help, I promise you they won't say no."

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS**

Student Senate appropriated **\$150** to **Northwest Advocates for Animal Awareness**.

Student Senate appropriated **\$1,200** to **Minority Men's Organization**.

Student Senate cosponsored **\$1,300** to **Interfraternity Council**.

**Blotters for the week of March 21****Maryville Public Safety****March 9**

A summons was issued to **Julia Muchow**, 19, from Kansas City, Missouri, for minor in possession at the 500 block of North Mulberry Street.

**March 11**

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 800 block of West 16th Street.

**March 12**

A summons was issued to **Whitney Shurvington**, 17, from Pickering, Missouri, for failure to stop at a school bus stop sign at the 1700 block of South Munn Street.

**March 14**

A summons was issued to **Tye Gottman**, 19, from Greentop, Missouri, for minor in possession and littering at the 100 block of West Sixth Street.

A summons was issued to **Tyler Crawford**, 22, for driving while intoxicated, driving with a revoked license and illegal U-turn at the 200 block of East Sixth Street.

A summons was issued to **Tasha Lowrance**, 34, for dog at large at the 100 block of West Edwards Street.

**March 15**

A summons was issued to **Faith Ferguson**, 20, for not having a valid driver's license and failure to register a motor vehicle at

the 900 block of North Buchanan Street.

**Northwest Missouri State University Police Department****March 13**

A summons was issued to **Janford Lyle**, 56, for trespassing in the Student Union.

**March 15**

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation in South Complex.

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation at 118 S. Main.

A summons was issued to **Angela Smith**, 18, for driving while suspended at University Drive.

**March 16**

There were two closed investigations for two liquor law violations in Dietrich Hall.

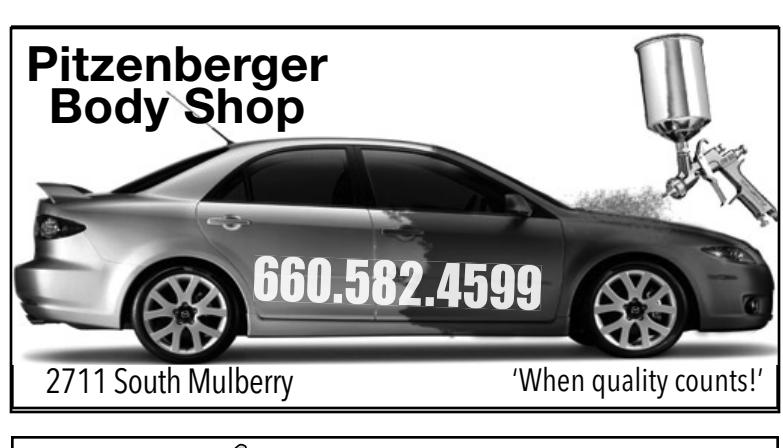
There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation at 416 W. 11th St.

**March 17**

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation in South Complex.

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation in Dietrich Hall.

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation in Tower Suites West.

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MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

Jiwon Choi has performed at many different venues including Carnegie Hall. Despite the various concert halls she's performed at, she feels most at home at Northwest.

## Pianist strikes chord with others

**SARAH VON SEGGERN**  
A&E Asst. Editor | @SeggernSarah

While walking the long halls of the Fine Arts Department, students can often hear the familiar, lyrical notes staff accompanist Jiwon Choi creates as her hands dance across the piano keys.

Choi's passion can be found through her ability as a pianist and her willingness to help others whether it be students, faculty or fellow pianists.

Junior Jaymie Argotsinger has worked with Choi since she was a freshman, the year Choi was a new staff member.

"Her commitment to her students and her commitment to her craft is super inspiring," Jaymie Argotsinger said. "To watch somebody, especially (since) she's pretty dang young, like totally excel in her field as a person, as a woman, is just inspiring to see that."

Choi began playing piano at the age of six, which she said is actually quite late compared to when children typically start.

Her interest and love for the piano stemmed from a piano performance on TV and her first toy piano given to her by her dad. Soon after, she began piano lessons.

Even though she lived in South Korea, where parents usually do not support being a musician as a career, Choi's family was the opposite. Her main support for her dreams growing up came from her parents.

They never pressured her to practice but rather allowed her to have fun with it.

Despite being middle-class citizens and having to bear the financial burden, they continually advocated for her to pursue her dreams.

One of Choi's most memorable performances was dedicated to her dad while he was going

through chemotherapy during her time at the University of Kansas.

"Before I graduated, during the summer break, I decided to go back to Korea and visit and give a recital just for him, just to cheer him up," Choi said. "I know that he loves when I play the piano... It was dedicated to my dad, and I wrote the letter on the program and basically just made everyone cry, including me."

Choi said she believes that the sound of the piano helped her dad feel better even if it couldn't cure his cancer. While he's much healthier now, this particular event helped Choi to understand more about why she plays the piano.

"I think the purpose of doing music is (to) encourage people, challenge people," Choi said. "That's why I'm doing this and what I'm doing this (for)."

After graduating from Dong-Ah University in South Korea, she ended up coming to America and attending school for her Masters at Roosevelt University by pure luck.

She said she happened to be in Chicago for the summer with a family friend and somehow ended up "auditioning" at Roosevelt University despite her performance being completely unplanned. By chance and her performance, she was accepted into the school with a scholarship.

At the University of Kansas, Choi found one of her biggest role models in her professor of piano Steven Spooner.

"Not only is he a great pianist,

“  
To watch somebody, especially (since) she's pretty dang young, totally excel in her field as a person, as a woman, is just inspiring to see that.”

*-Jaymie Argotsinger, student*

but also a great mentor and teacher," Choi said. "He's really good at teaching. He still learns himself as well. He practices like crazy all the time. He performs like he never stops. Most of all, he taught me how to love the music. I want to be like him as a teacher."

Spooner said he was grateful to hear this, especially since it meant he did his job.

"That makes me really happy because that is a mentor's first job," Spooner said. "The love of music is the absolute core of everything because it drives everything. It makes a performance wonderful. It makes our preparations wonderful. It makes everything."

When Spooner began teaching Choi, he said he was amazed by her piano skills and versatility and that there wasn't much he felt he could teach her.

"Dr. Choi is one of the most natural pianists I've ever seen in my life anywhere," Spooner said. "She has such an ability to play the piano with just almost no difficulty, no physical difficulty at all. I was sort of amazed by that right from the beginning."

Spooner said all he could do for her was to push her to play the

best performance she could, because for most people, what was good for her was better than other people. He also pushed for her to have higher aspirations and play in bigger competitions where she was met with incredible success. He wanted her to do more and be more, especially with the amount of

skill she has.

Besides her piano playing, Spooner said Choi's strongest trait lies in her modesty.

"She is incredibly modest," Spooner said. "Really so modest, and this modesty puts all of the attention where it should be, which is on the music, not on her."

When people first meet Choi, they can't believe how talented she is, but even more so in her humble nature.

Department Chair Kathryn Strickland said it is helpful for students to be able to see just how humble she is since most musicians who have so much talent come in with egos.

"She could easily have an ego, and I think a lot of people who play at her ability level do," Strickland said. "We run into that a lot in every area. She has the opposite of an ego... It's good for the students to see somebody that way. To see somebody who can be stellar at what they do but still be humble is a great example."

For Choi though, she said she takes every compliment with appreciation. Especially since most of the time, she said she isn't really satisfied with half her performances.

"People come to me after concerts and say good things," Choi said. "Or when they say they are touched by the music that I played, it means a lot. It's not just, 'Oh, OK thank you.'... I don't know if I'm kind of a little bit harsh on myself, but there are not many moments where I'm always satisfied with my performance, comparing with other great pianists... I could never go, 'Oh, I'm great.' Never. Never."

Choi really goes above and beyond for her students by scheduling times that work better for them. Her ability to balance both her personal life and her career is certainly a wonder to both the students and the teachers.

Argotsinger can't believe the flexibility she provides for students despite the amount of time she dedicates to other recitals. Choi tries to make every second count, especially with her busy schedule, while still making time for her personal life.

"I actually use every second of time to practice, work here, and then, when I go home, I'll spend time with my son," Choi said. "Then when he sleeps, I'll go to the piano again and practice a little bit at night. I use every second."

Even with the bustling schedule, Choi loves being able to help and perform with a variety of musicians.

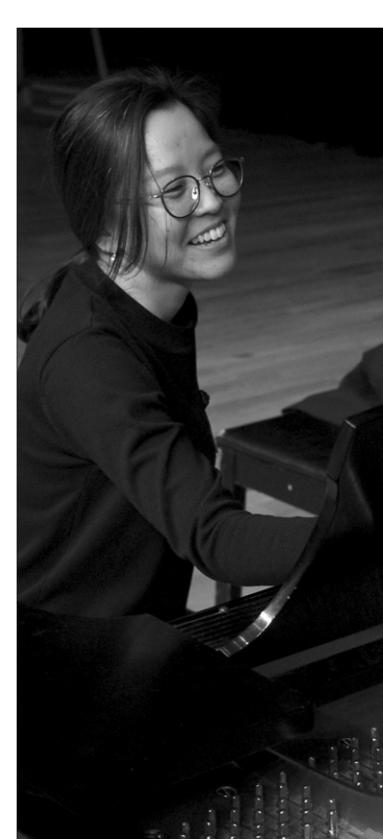
"Somebody texted me this message, and I think it just really tells my life," Choi said. "He said, 'Working hard for something we don't care about is called stress. Working hard for something we love is called passion.' I think I feel some of both, but mostly towards the passion, because I love what I'm doing here."



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN  
Choi's mentor Steven Spooner said there is no other piano player he could think of besides her to help him learn his upcoming program.

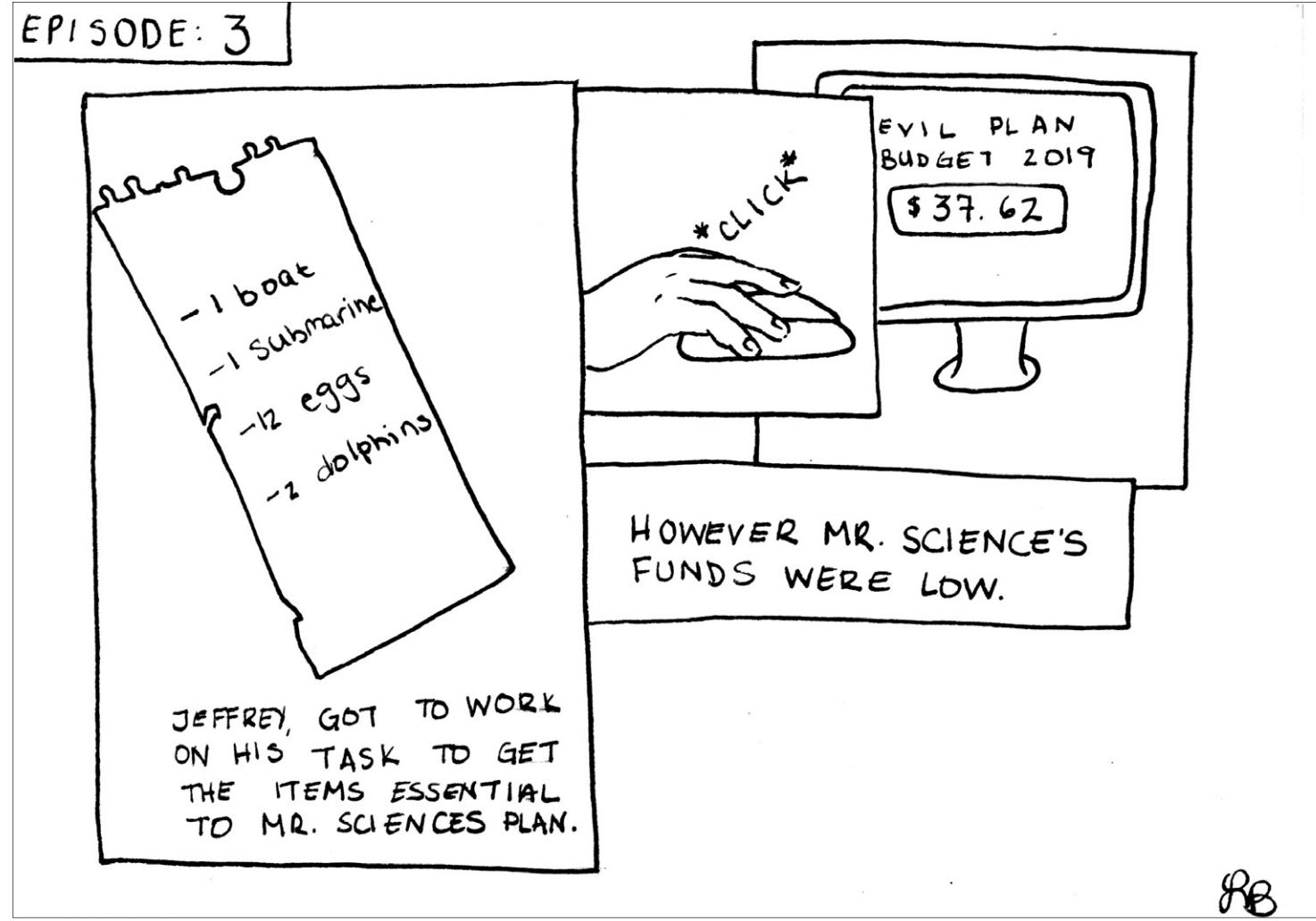


MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN  
Choi is the accompanist for students performing juries, which are final exams in the form of solos at the end of the semester. She can accompany up to 80 students in a matter of two days.



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN  
Choi enjoys the collaborative nature of working with other musicians.

## The Adventures of Mr. Science and Jeffrey



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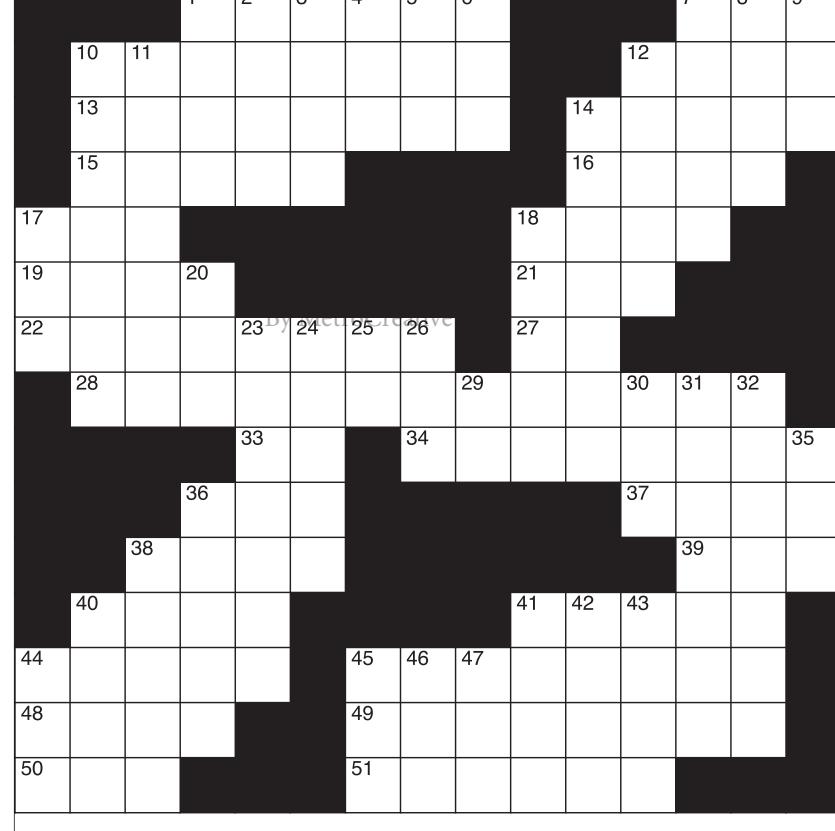
LEAH BRUCE | NW MISSOURIAN

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10. Ducks  
12. Ancient Dead Sea region  
13. Hatch  
14. Genus of finches  
15. Knives  
16. Towards the oral region  
17. Bitter-flavored beer  
18. Brews  
19. Hideouts  
21. Where one sleeps  
22. Unbroken view of a region  
27. Hammer is one  
28. Racing legend  
33. Commercial  
34. Understood by just a few  
36. Global design effort  
37. Portuguese folk song  
38. Traditional woven cloth  
39. Oil barrel (abbr.)  
40. Cupbearer of the gods  
41. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation  
44. Dabs  
45. Bedspread  
48. Visionary  
49. Prime Ministers  
50. Criticize  
51. Teeter



7. Icelandic poems  
8. Rocker Rundgren  
9. Doctors' group  
10. Inform wrongly  
11. TVs used to have one  
12. Long-\_\_: donkeys  
14. Weasel-like mammal  
17. Payroll company  
18. Conductance unit  
20. Fifth note of a major scale  
23. Prepares  
24. Yellow-fever mosquitos  
25. Partner to Pa  
26. They \_\_  
29. Canadian province (abbr.)  
30. Official

31. More colorless  
32. Goodies  
35. Sanders was one  
36. Talkative  
38. Rips apart  
40. Chinese Muslim  
41. Rapid eye movements  
42. Song  
43. Spent it all  
44. Somber  
45. Cycles per second  
46. Naturally occurring material  
47. "Orange is the New Black" character

## CLUES DOWN

1. Bird genus  
2. A baseball team  
3. Taxis  
4. Baseball stat  
5. Insecticide  
6. Midway between east and southeast

18. Conductance unit  
20. Fifth note of a major scale  
23. Prepares  
24. Yellow-fever mosquitos  
25. Partner to Pa  
26. They \_\_  
29. Canadian province (abbr.)  
30. Official

## HOROSCOPE

By MetroCreative

## LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, home is where the heart is, especially this week. Spend as much quality time as you can with loved ones in the days to come. Find a cozy spot to read and unwind as well.

## SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, might you be so fixated on a problem that you're overlooking the simplest solutions? Take a step back and refocus. The answer might be simpler than you think.

## SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

You are always ready to take on more, Sagittarius. This week you may have to set some limits or you may burn out. An adventure with a BFF is doable.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20  
It is possible to accomplish much in stressful situations, Capricorn. But sometimes you don't realize when you need to take a step back. This is the time.

## AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, a long-held belief might be holding you back or preventing you from moving forward. Once you let it go, you'll feel emancipated and ready to take a step in the right direction.

## PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, a bad mood need not dictate how you approach the day or even the week ahead. Call up a friend and beat the funk.

## ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Your mind is receptive to innovative ideas, Aries. You may feel inspired to try out many new things in the days to come. Catalog those that make you happy.

## TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Turn off the logical part of your mind for a little while, Taurus. Let your fantasies run wild. Trying to manage everything down to the minute can short-circuit your brain.

## GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, a truckload of new ideas is coming your way. These may serve as catalysts for new hobbies, projects and even developing new friendships along the way.

## CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

You may not be entirely sure what's holding you up this week, Cancer. But once you put your finger on it, you'll be able to work through the issues that much more readily.

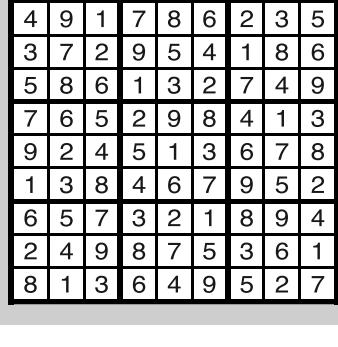
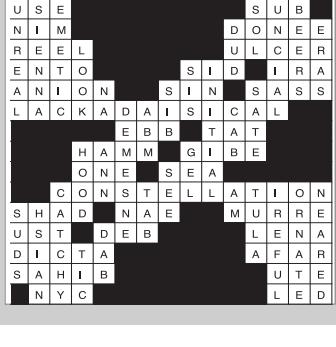
## LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

You have carte blanche to hibernate for the week if you feel you need some alone time, Leo. But try to put your self-imposed exile to some good use around the house.

## VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, why slip quietly into a party when you can make a grand entrance? Don't be afraid of pointing the spotlight on yourself for a change. Then enjoy the rush that comes from it.

## Last Week's Solutions





AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Poet Anders Carlson-Wee reads from his newest collection "The Low Passions" at the Visiting Writers series March 13 in the J.W. Jones Student Union living room. Carlson-Wee was the recipient of the 2017 Poetry International Prize.

## Poet's stories inspire students

PRIYANKA PATEL  
Missourian Reporter | @Priyanka\_xo\_

The Visiting Writers series welcomed Anders Carlson-Wee, winner of the 2017 Poetry International Prize, March 13 in the J.W. Jones Student Union Living Room.

The aim of the series is to promote diversity, creativity and freedom of expression as a living and meaningful art form.

More than 70 people came to the event listening to Carlson-Wee's poems based on his life experiences of dumpster diving and train hopping. Students also watched a 15-minute short film of these experiences alongside his brother Kai.

Carlson-Wee released his new book, "The Low Passions," March 12, and his work has appeared in Buzzfeed and Poetry Daily.

Miller said she was inspired by the event and Carlson-Wee's style of narrative.

"It was interesting to see the Agricultural science and therapeutic recreation junior Kayla Miller had never been to a writer's series event before.

"I really enjoyed my first time here as Anders had an awesome way of expressing his stories, and I loved listening to every single second of it," Miller said. "It has definitely inspired me to come to more writers events in the future."

Carlson-Wee released his new book, "The Low Passions," March 12, and his work has appeared in Buzzfeed and Poetry Daily.

Miller said she was inspired by the event and Carlson-Wee's style of narrative.

"It was interesting to see the

way people tell stories and listen to how they communicate their feelings, and it was cool to see his background being brought into the poems of his wild, crazy life," Miller said.

However, Carlson-Wee wasn't always into writing.

"I actually grew up rollerblading and was a professional rollerblader during my teen years, and I also have a fascination with Neanderthals and human evolution," Carlson-Wee said. "It was only till college that I fell in love with writing and a woman named Mary Cornish brought writing to life for me in a way I have never experienced."

Carlson-Wee said he developed a passion for writing through his life experiences as he recited poems about his childhood growing up in a church setting.

"As my parents were both pastors, I would listen to their ceremonies every week, and they both preach in a personal narrative style where they weave stories into the text to make it more sacred," Carlson-Wee said. "When I took the writing class in college, my experiences helped me build visuals for my poems."

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

## THE STROLLER:

## Your Bearcat wants alcohol in Forest Village

Hidden beneath sinks, stowed behind cartons of milk and stashed in unused trash cans, we all know it's there. Most of the students living in Forest Village Apartments have alcohol stored away like we are Al Capone during the height of the 1920s.

Northwest may be a "dry" campus, which is a joke when you look at the Blotters, but FVA

should be exempt from this prohibition.

Most of us are of age to drink, yet we feel like we are still in high school or the high rises, having to smuggle our contraband under conspicuous jackets and blankets.

It makes it much harder to discover our limits in a safe environment. I know I'd rather discover what Four Loko does to me at

home where my roommates can keep an eye on me, and prevent me from texting people I shouldn't, like my ex, than at a party full of strangers who would take Snapchat videos of me letting out my inner stripper.

No matter the precautions we take while we party, we are more vulnerable the minute we step outside of our home.

Let's be real — it would just be decriminalizing what's already happening. Step into just about any FVA apartment, and you'll find alcohol not so cleverly hidden in case our Student Assistant comes knocking on our door.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

## Agriculture celebrated at annual summit

ANGEL TRINH  
A&E Reporter | @acuteanglewrite

Educators, agriculture industry professionals and students celebrated National Ag Day by having breakfast and listening to speakers and panelists at the second annual Agriculture and Food Literacy Summit at the Mozingo Lake Conference Center.

Northwest's School of Agricultural Sciences sponsored the event to discuss ways to help students understand the food system March 14. The summit started after U.S. Department of Agriculture sent a grant to the University for working on agriculture literacy.

Co-organizer Jill Brown, director of partnerships and placement in Career Services, said the event helps people continue the conversation about the importance of agriculture.

"We live in northwest Missouri where agriculture is a large part of our economy," Brown said. "People seem to be more and more removed from production agriculture, but there's no reason why they can't get reconnected."

The first speaker was Northwest Athletic Director Andy Peterson. He grew up in a family of dairy farmers in Trenton, Missouri, and had three degrees in agriculture, all from Northwest. He spoke about how agriculture influenced his life.

"It's a passion of mine," Peterson said. "I'm still very connected to it. The person it turned me into is something I'm very proud of. This is just an opportunity to



MADI GLASS | NW MISSOURIAN

The Northwest Agriculture and Food Summit held a panel of experts including, left to right, Lorin Fahrmeier, Austin Alewel, Andrea Schnetzler and Gavin Spoor Thurs. March 14 at the Mozingo Conference Center.

share that a little bit with others and, hopefully, give some of the younger ones some encouragement on their path."

The summit's theme was "More." The theme had four pillars — "Reach More," "Empower More," "Connect More" and "Feed More" — and each pillar correlated with a segment of the summit.

Division director of agriculture business development for the Missouri Department of Agriculture Davin Althoff spoke during the

"Reach More" portion of the summit. He talked about ways to cultivate the connection between agriculture and society.

"Being involved in agriculture, it's absolutely important for us to connect to and reach our consumers," Althoff said. "Less than two percent of the population in the U.S. is involved in agriculture, so a big part of our population don't have a day-to-day understanding of what we do in agriculture. Reaching consumers is about building

that trust in what we do."

The first panel focused on agripreneurs, people who make their living by selling an agricultural product, for the "Empower More" portion of the summit. Panelists represented three businesses: Berry Nutty Farms, Spoor Farms Popcorn and Alewel's Country Meats.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

# Taste of Africa displays culture, history

ANGEL TRINH  
A&E Reporter | @acuteanglewrite

More than 200 people celebrated the cultures of Africa with dance performances, food, music and fashion at third annual Taste of Africa event in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom March 16.

Junior Valentine Osakwe and freshman Chinmeri Nwuba opened the event, hosted by the African Student Organization, with a dance performance. Other ASO members, both male and female, modeled colorful clothing, designed by Eddah Mwaura, throughout the night walking on a runway set up in the middle of the room.

Students from the University of Missouri-Kansas City's ASO performed a dance. A number of UMKC students also attended the event.

The event also had an educational aspect presented by political science professor Brian Hesse. He talked about the many unheard stories Africa has compared to the single story most people hear about Africa.

"The African continent has so much diversity," Hesse said. "There's so much value in seeing the world through somebody else's eyes... To get exposed to other cultures, you gain a richer and deeper appreciation of the world because you get some idea about how other people see the world and how they interact with it."

ASO President, junior Hiba Mahgoub, said she hoped everyone learned something from the event.

"We (ASO's members) want to show people that Africa is just not one thing," Mahgoub said. "We wanted to show them that it's a huge thing... That's ASO's role: to teach the community and the campus about everything (about Africa)."

ASO has been on campus for three years, and Mahgoub has been in it since her freshman year. She's been able to see the event grow since it started.

"The first year we started Taste of Africa, it wasn't very big," Mahgoub said. "But that was our first year, so we were trying to figure out what we want to do. Then last year we had a really good turnout. Compared to last year, this is about the same turnout. This year, the only thing that made our turnout a little low is the basketball game going on at the same time."

ASO started planning for the event in June 2018. Hesse was happy to see how many people attended Taste of Africa.

"I think this is an incredible event for our campus to have," Hesse said. "I'm glad that it was a full house and people came out to experience it. It's a real testament to the African Student Organization and all the effort they've put into this."

Junior April Walkup first heard about the event after attending an ASO meeting with her friends. She hadn't gotten to know many international students before.

"It sounded really cool to be able to experience a different culture in so many different ways," Walkup said. "It's so much easier to understand different people if you know more about their culture. (When you go to different events) you meet so many people, and it's really cool to experience that here at college."

Hesse is passionate about Africa because he studied abroad there and still spends a lot of time on the continent. Aside from giving a short lesson, he attended the event to experience the African culture until he has another opportunity to go to Africa.

"(Sometimes) a person isn't lucky enough to go to the continent," Hesse said. "We're so fortunate here at Northwest because the continent has come to us."



FILE | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman Trevor Hudgins passed Justin Pitts for the Northwest assist record (190) March 19.

## MCCOLLUM

CONTINUED FROM A14

After four years of pursuing his degree, McCollum essentially decided to throw it out the window. Further, Tappmeyer had already filled his graduate assistant spot for the upcoming season, so McCollum served as a "volunteer assistant," paying his own way along.

First, McCollum had to make a phone call to Kansas City, where his now-wife Michelle had moved to be with him.

"So instead of making money, I spent money, and I think I'm still paying off some of those loans," McCollum said. "My soon-to-be-wife at the time, when I called her and said, 'Hey, I think I might want to pay for my own way,' ... She probably doesn't like to talk about this story, but that didn't go over so well, but we're still married, and so, that's fantastic. And Tapp thought I was crazy too. But yeah, now I'm a basketball coach."

On the surface, McCollum's forgoing of the start of a promising career in the finance industry seems to border between illogical and foolish. But for the Iowa native, the choice was rather simple. It came down to who he was, not who everyone thought he would be.

"I wanted to make an impact, and I felt like that was the best way to do it," McCollum said. "I felt like I could really make a difference in kids' lives and kind of make, essentially, the world a better place by being a coach. That's why I chose it — not to win games, not to accomplish any of that stuff, but literally to make an impact on these kids' lives."

At some point in Kansas City, near the beginning of his journey into the world of coaching, McCollum made a list with his wife. Ben and Michelle wrote down some life goals, one of which pertained directly to his basketball career.

McCollum wanted to be a head coach at the Division II level by the age of 27.

To do that, of course, he had to be an assistant first. That's what pulled McCollum away from the best coach he'd ever known in Tappmeyer, to the best offensive mind he'd ever meet. That's what took McCollum to Emporia State.

David Moe, the son of former NBA coach Doug Moe, was the head coach at Emporia State when McCollum was in his second year working under Tappmeyer, this season, as a true graduate assistant. Emporia was set to play a team in the Hillyard Tip-Off Classic that the Bearcats had played the week before, and Moe wanted the scouting report of the team from Tappmeyer.

McCollum happened to be the assistant that scouted the particular team, making it his job to fill Moe in.

"He actually drove up and Tapp said, 'Ben's got the scout, he'll meet you up there and give you some of that information,'" McCollum said. "So I met David Moe that day, and he said, 'Hey, give me a call once you're done as a GA; I know some people.'"

Moe, who spent a decade coaching the Hornets, knew the day he met McCollum that he wanted to hire him on his own staff.

"When I met him, I liked him," Moe said. "His work ethic and everything kind of stood out, but then,



FILE | NW MISSOURIAN

bringing what he was bringing from Northwest Missouri made it that much more of a bonus. So, yeah, 99 percent yes (I knew I wanted him that day)."

McCollum came with a sterling recommendation from Tappmeyer and a reputation for preparedness that preceded him. Every pre-conceived notion Moe had of McCollum was confirmed before McCollum's interview for an assistant coaching position even started.

"One of my players was in my office when Ben came on his interview," Moe said. "We were sitting there talking, and I told the player, I said I guarantee — it was about, I don't know 15 to 20 minutes 'til (McCollum's) time was to show up for the interview — and I said, 'I guarantee you can go out there and drive around that parking lot, he's sitting out there somewhere waiting for the right time to come in.'"

McCollum had to make the nearly-three hour drive from Maryville to Emporia and didn't want to risk being late for the interview.

"He said, 'Don't dress up,' and of course I'm going to dress up, so I dressed up," McCollum said. "I walk in and he starts laughing at me and he says, 'What are you dressed up for?,' and he goes, 'How long were you in the parking lot?' About a half hour or 45 minutes. He just lost control, just hysterically laughing."

The instance defined McCollum's work ethic both then and now. In some ways, his tenacity has been the calling card of his career, so much so, that as Moe told stories about McCollum's time at Emporia, he intended to leave his unrelenting passion out of it.

"The positivity and the energy — you know, the energy he always brought every day, the enthusiasm and contagiousness — all those positive attributes go without saying," Moe said. "There's no need to mention those."

In his time at Emporia State, McCollum served effectively as the Robin to Moe's Batman. McCollum brought with him from Northwest and Tappmeyer a set of distinctive intangibles. He knew basketball well, but what he thrived on was his ability to connect with people.

McCollum complimented Moe well. He described Moe as one of the smartest "basketball minds" he had ever been around, while Moe said McCollum had traits that most coaches simply don't.

"He has all the intangibles that I didn't have or didn't care to have," Moe said. "He's a likable guy, and he does it the right way. There's a book on the right way to do things, the right way to treat people, the right way to act. There's a code... and I think Ben has always lived his life by that code."

McCollum reaped the benefits of Tappmeyer's coaching style for years, both as a player and a coach, and he picked up offensive schemes and cues from the mind of Moe. Tappmeyer, Moe and McCollum all knew that after four seasons at Emporia, McCollum seemed ready to coach his own team, he just needed the opportunity to do so.

Former Northwest Director of Athletics Bob Boerigter wasn't expecting Steve Tappmeyer's resignation and ensuing retirement to come as soon as it did.

Boerigter and Tappmeyer each knew that it would come sooner than later, but when the Hall of Fame coach decided to end his Northwest career slightly earlier than planned in March 2009, Boerigter had to find a replacement sooner than anticipated.

Boerigter and company knew there would be an oversaturation of applications for the position, so they started hunting for the Hall of Famer's replacement as if they had zero. They compiled a list of po-

## BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM A1

Welty finished the game with 12 points, shooting 3-of-4 from three. Hudgins added 20 points, 12 of which came via the free-throw line.

After Hawkins' provided a spark, the Bearcats took off and never looked back. They entered halftime with a 33-24 lead and built from there. In doing so, the Bearcats clinched a trip to Evansville, Indiana, moving one step closer to a national title.

In the Bearcats' last trip the Elite Eight in 2017, they walked away with a championship. The core of that team, of course, graduated last spring. Perhaps the most impressive facet of Northwest's latest run through the Central Region is how unlikely it seems in retrospect.

After the team's first scrimmage in October, McCollum was worried about the grueling season ahead.

"I got done (with the scrimmage) and said, 'Man, this is going to be a long year,'" McCollum said. "I called my wife, and I think I even said, 'Man, this could be a long year, honey, if I don't figure something out.'"

McCollum and his staff poured

over hours of film, trying to figure out what the team could do well. By the time Northwest's third scrimmage ended, McCollum knew the Bearcats were on the verge of something special.

"You lose the guys that we lost... I think that people supported us at the beginning of the year," McCollum said. "They wanted us to do well always. But I think there was an acceptance that we were just not going to be as good. I think our guys have used that the whole season as kind of a chip on their shoulder."

Two seasons after winning it all and armed with an almost entirely different roster, the Bearcats are hoping to do it again. Welty, the only player on the team who appeared in the 2017 national title game, is tired of talking about two seasons ago.

He wants this incarnation of the Bearcats to win their own title. After the victory over Southern, Northwest is knocking on the door — just three wins away from cutting down nets in Evansville.

"Honestly, I don't really want to talk about that. We're a completely different team," Welty said. "It's awesome to be back at this point. Like I said, I hope we can keep this going."

Boerigter said, was fine with the decision, which he chalked up to the loyalty of the Northwest fanbase. Privately, the narrative changed.

Boerigter received a lot of flak for his decision from higher-ups and those with influence in Northwest's community. Boerigter interviewed a number of battle-tested veterans for the position, some of whom had coached the game longer than McCollum played it. To many, McCollum's hiring was questionable at best.

"It was one of the two most unpopular decisions I ever made," Boerigter said. "I took a lot of grief over that. We were replacing a Hall of Fame coach. I got calls from people of importance saying, 'I don't understand. You're taking a guy with no head coaching experience to replace our Hall of Fame coach.' But I was just convinced he was the right guy."

Looking back now, McCollum considers himself lucky. He wonders how many athletic directors would have been so indifferent to outside opinions as Boerigter was when he made the choice.

"You don't see that happen (very often)," McCollum said. "You don't see a guy that is comfortable enough in his own skin to make that kind of decision because that's what he felt like was right. And I was lucky that he was the athletic director at the time and hired me."

It's difficult to determine how many athletic directors or hiring committees would have made the same call Boerigter did. But it ultimately doesn't matter. Boerigter was the right guy seeking the right guy, and McCollum was announced as Tappmeyer's replacement March 31, 2009.

McCollum was the second youngest head coach in Division II basketball when he took over the program. He was 27 years old.



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

Maryville senior Chiara Ghera celebrates with sophomore Larissa Nitsche during a game last season.

## Second-year coach sets sights on conference title

### GEORDON GUMM

Missourian Reporter | @geordon97gumm



As coach Carson Riedel enters his second season at the helm for Maryville baseball, the future of the program is most important.

With six returning starters, the 'Hounds are prepared to wipe the slate clean and aim for a shot at the Midland Empire Conference championship. Maryville will look to its seniors to lead the way and set the tone for the rest of the season.

Riedel is leading the Spoofhounds after spending one year as an assistant coach in 2017. The job was vacated when former coach Monica Woods retired, and the school district saw Riedel as the best fit for the position.

"Coming into the position was great, but it was tough losing the experience from coach Woods," Riedel said. "I was glad to have had a year as an assistant because it made the transition from coach Woods to myself much easier."

Riedel said there was some initial worry on his part, after only a year of coaching experience before being named head coach. He quickly got over those initial nerves as he realized the position he was in.

"Honestly, I did not know what



FILE | NW MISSOURIAN

The Spoofhound baseball team is looking towards having a successful season with more experience under its belt.

to think initially about being named head coach," Riedel said. "It was a little overwhelming at first, but I was able to overcome those nerves because I understood that I was inheriting a solid team with a lot of potential from coach Woods."

Riedel was given the reins to a team that had just won the Class 4 District 16 title before a loss in the

playoffs to Smithville. In his first year, Riedel led the Spoofhounds to a less than stellar record of 8-10. He also noted that there was a mass exodus of seniors the year before his first season as the lead man for the 'Hounds.

Coming into his first season at the helm, Riedel did not have high expectations considering the

amount of experience lost at the varsity level. Two years later, and Riedel emphasized that now is the time for the program to capitalize with such an experienced group mixed in with some underclassmen.

"Now some of those guys that lacked experience when I came in have gotten the opportunity to

## UP NEXT

**Maryville vs Lafayette**  
5 p.m. March 26  
Maryville

half, junior forward Morgan Pettlon struck first for the Spoofhounds in the 31st minute. Pettlon would go on to score four more for Maryville, bringing her game total to five.

Freshman forward Cleo Johnson and junior midfielder Addison Hall also contributed, scoring a goal apiece.

The Spoofhounds would go on to win their first conference match of the season in dramatic fashion by defeating Savannah 7-0 and completing the shut out.

Due to harsh weather conditions, Maryville had to be quick to locate strengths and weaknesses within the team. Not being able to practice on game surfaces has made this difficult for Reuter and his staff.

"Making those little mistakes that you wouldn't see with more practice time outside is inevitable for us right now," Reuter said. "We are just going to have to rely on communication and our teammates to have our backs more so now than any other time."

Reuter and his staff are very optimistic and ready for the challenges that lie ahead when facing the upcoming soccer schedule.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:**  
**NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

## UP NEXT

**Maryville vs Maysville**  
4:30 p.m. March 21  
Maryville

learn and gain more experience," Riedel said. "Right now, I would say the bar of expectations has been raised for the upcoming season. We have plenty of older guys that the underclassmen can lean on for advice."

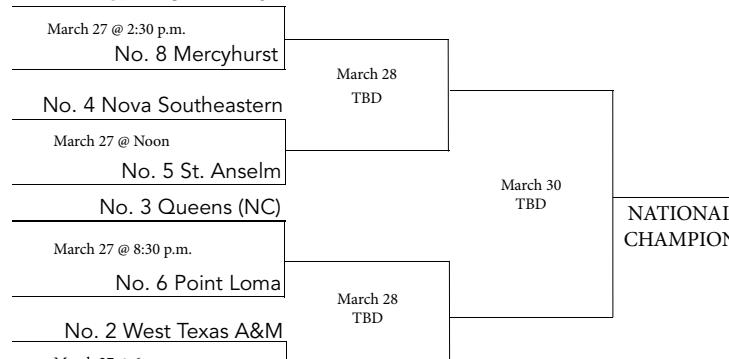
The Spoofhounds are set to return with six starters this season and a couple more players who had started a few games last season. With such a packed senior class, Maryville has the looks of a hardened and seasoned squad out on the diamond.

The 'Hounds are in a position to change the culture around the team and shed the label of lacking experience. Riedel has confidence in his team because he has seen the effort and time they put in to change the perception of the team.

"These guys have really worked their tails off the last couple of years," Riedel said. "I think that we are finally going to see that work pay off this year and hopefully go and get a conference title while we are at it."

### NORTHWEST MEN'S BASKETBALL

#### 2019 NCAA Division II Elite Eight



\*All games held at Ford Arena in Evansville, Indiana

### NW BASEBALL

#### MIAA Standings

##### Overall MIAA

Missouri Southern	19-4	10-0	Central Oklahoma	24-1	8-0
Central Missouri	16-8	8-4	Northeastern State	16-11	7-1
Emporia State	12-9	8-4	Washburn	12-12	5-1
Missouri Western	10-9	8-4	Fort Hays State	10-9	3-1
Pittsburg State	12-10	7-5	Pittsburg State	14-13	4-2
Central Oklahoma	13-9	6-6	Central Missouri	10-8	1-1
NORTHWEST	10-12	6-6	Missouri Western	12-11	2-4
Lindenwood	11-14	6-6	Missouri Southern	7-10	2-4
Washburn	10-11	5-7	Emporia State	4-13	2-4
Southwest Baptist	9-14	4-8	Lindenwood	11-9	2-6
Northeastern State	4-21	2-10	Nebraska Kearney	3-13	1-3
Fort Hays State	2-18	2-10	Lincoln	4-18	1-7

### NW SOFTBALL

#### MIAA Standings

##### Overall MIAA

Missouri Southern	19-4	10-0	Central Oklahoma	24-1	8-0
Central Missouri	16-8	8-4	Northeastern State	16-11	7-1
Emporia State	12-9	8-4	Washburn	12-12	5-1
Missouri Western	10-9	8-4	Fort Hays State	10-9	3-1
Pittsburg State	12-10	7-5	Pittsburg State	14-13	4-2
Central Oklahoma	13-9	6-6	Central Missouri	10-8	1-1
NORTHWEST	10-12	6-6	Missouri Western	12-11	2-4
Lindenwood	11-14	6-6	Missouri Southern	7-10	2-4
Washburn	10-11	5-7	Emporia State	4-13	2-4
Southwest Baptist	9-14	4-8	Lindenwood	11-9	2-6
Northeastern State	4-21	2-10	Nebraska Kearney	3-13	1-3
Fort Hays State	2-18	2-10	Lincoln	4-18	1-7

# Change needed for Division II bracket



ANDREW WEGLEY  
Sports Editor  
@andrew\_wegley21

In the aftermath of Northwest men's basketball's 70-59 regional semifinal win over Southern Nazarene March 17, both teams' head coaches addressed a need for change.

The Bearcats and the Crimson Storm, both ranked in the NABC NCAA Division II Top 25 in the season's final week, faced off against each other in the Central Region semifinal, which would be the equivalent to the NCAA Division I round of 32.

Why did two teams, both ranked in the top 13 of Division II schools by the NABC, both boasting pre-tournament win totals in the top six in the country, face off in the second round of the tournament?

It's based entirely off geographic location, really, which could be argued as the most sensible way to go about it. But if in Division I the tournament is stacked to where No. 1 seeds get to play relatively bad teams in the first round, and mostly mediocre teams in the second

round, why does Division II make it so much harder for good teams to succeed?

Of course, the tragedy here doesn't take a great toll on Northwest, or at least it didn't in the semifinals. Southern Nazarene was ranked No. 13 in the country in the regular season's final week, and it had to match up with the Bearcats in the second round at Bearcat Arena.

That would be like if Virginia Tech, a No. 4 seed in this year's DI tourney, had to face No. 1 Duke in the round of 32 on Duke's home floor.

In reality, Virginia's route to the Sweet 16 is much easier, going through either No. 5 Mississippi State or No. 12 Liberty — both much easier pills to swallow than the Blue Devils.

Southern Nazarene knows it was done an injustice. Coach Adam Bohac voiced his displeasure after the Crimson Storm's close loss.

"We have 29 Division II wins and (Northwest) has (34) now?" Bohac said. "I'm not sure there's another regional championship being played — or not very many — that have that many wins. I bet there's 41 other coaches in the region that would vote for (change)."

It's easy to see why Bohac said what he said — he's the one that came out on the losing end of it. But Northwest coach Ben McCollum echoed a similar sentiment.

"I've said this for years," McCollum said. "The NSIC, the GAC and the MIAA need to break it up. I'm not saying which regions are weak or not or whatever, but there are some weak regions, and it would be nice to say those teams (in the) first round... Then you get the right people at the Elite Eight."

Northwest blew past Minnesota State-Mankato in the first round this season, but the Bearcats fell the Mavericks as the No. 1 seed a year ago. If Division II followed the Division I model, maybe Northwest beats a No. 16 seed in the first round, and maybe they make it last long enough in the tournament to get then-injured Justin Pitts back.

Maybe, if Division II's big dance more closely resembled that of Division I, Northwest would have won another National Title last year.

Division II's model is effective for travel budgets and shortened road trips. But that's where the logic stops and the disservice to basketball starts.

# 'Cats slow start plagues weekend stint

TRENT SPINNER  
Chief Reporter | @trentspinner



Northwest vs Missouri Southern  
3 p.m. March 22, 2 p.m. March 23, 1 p.m. March 24  
Maryville

scoreless innings with four strikeouts.

As it sits, the weekend rotation starts with sophomore Max Spitzmiller, goes to junior Quintin Van Ackerson and finishes with Funkhouser. All three pitchers have shown flashes of being solidified starters but need to continue success in repetitious fashion.

"We are going to keep our staff this way for right now, with Spitzmiller on Friday, Q (Ackerson) on Saturday and Funk (Funkhouser) on Sunday. That seemed to work out well for our starting pitching as well as our bullpen," Loe said. "I think all three of those guys have thrown well and guys that come out the bullpen have thrown well; we are just a little off."

In the third game against Pittsburg State, the Bearcats showcased a potential that has been seen through various points in the season. Thus far, Northwest has played one full series to near perfection, while the others have seen either late starts to the series or the 'Cats haven't been able to finish.

The Bearcats this year have had a trend to get ahead of themselves and the inability to get the timing down on when to show up for a series.

"If we are worrying about wins and losses, our minds are in the wrong spot. What we got to do is just go in and compete," Loe said. "We just need to come and play 'cause this team is talented enough to win on any given day, just have to play the game the right way and keep our heads in the right spot."

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## UP NEXT

Northwest vs Washburn  
2 p.m. March 21  
Maryville

ter the matches March 21.

"I think Washburn is going to tell us more because that's one of the better teams," Rosewell said.

Sophomore Franco Oliva was named the MIAA men's tennis athlete of the week for his weekend performance against Harding and Emporia State. The Argentina native went 2-0 at the No. 1 spot for the Bearcats and went 1-1 in doubles.

Oliva is ranked No. 4 in the ITA rankings and has recorded 19 wins early this season. In the fall, the 6-foot-2-inch sophomore finished third at the ITA Cup.

"He's had a fabulous year," Rosewell said. "He played No. 3 for us last year and was not a strong No. 3; he was about .500. Sometimes a little bit of experience around the league (can help). He had an outstanding ITA tournament and is ranked fourth in the country... but to play No. 1 and beat two very good players was a good sign."

Freshman Louis Compas serves the ball during Northwest's match against Emporia State March 17.

# Tennis finds conference success in early matches

**TUCKER FRANKLIN**  
Assistant Sports Editor | @thereal\_tuckerf



Northwest men's and women's tennis completed a successful weekend of competitive tennis March 15-16 before diving into the conference schedule.

For the 35th time in 34 years, Northwest recorded a win against conference rival Missouri Western. Coach Mark Rosewell explained it never gets old beating the Griffons because of the rivalry.

"That's a match people follow because of the rivalry," Rosewell said. "That's always a big match for us."

With that dual against Western, the conference season is officially underway. The Bearcats played host to two talented regional and conference opponents March 16-17 at the Frank Grube Tennis Courts.

The women continued their hot streak beating Harding 4-3. Freshman Julia Aliseda won the deciding match for Northwest. Aliseda needed a third set to net the win over Harding's Allison Carpenter at No. 4 singles spot.

For the men, fortunes were reversed. The Bearcats dropped the dual 4-3 to the Bisons. Freshman

No. 2 Fabien Calloud couldn't pull off the three-set win against Harding's Arthur Belian. As a result, the Bisons took the dual.

"Both were extremely close matches," Rosewell said. "They're in Southern Arkansas, and they've been outside. We have had one day of practice outside and the second day we played. We're not match tough outside, that's what happened."

Both Bearcat teams were able to take home 5-2 dual victories against MIAA rival Emporia State, which put Rosewell over 1,100 wins for his career. After the victory, the Northwest women have now won seven straight duals. Rosewell praised his team and explained they still have a lot of duals left on the schedule.

"I think, right now, they're potentially the best team we've had in years," Rosewell said. "They're doing OK. We play Washburn which are big matches. They beat us last year, men and women both. We've got some big ones coming up."

Looking ahead, Northwest is tasked with Washburn, who traditionally has been a tough opponent for the Bearcats. Rosewell said he will know more about his team af-

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AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Men's basketball coach Ben McCollum clinched his fifth MIAA Coach of the Year award this year after leading Northwest through an undefeated regular season.

From questionable hire to National Champion, from bust to brilliance, Northwest men's coach Ben McCollum has been a number of things, but right now he's the...

## BEST COACH IN DIVISION II

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21



Ben McCollum was about a month away from graduating from Northwest when he voluntarily threw his life off the rails.

McCollum, who transferred to Northwest from a community college in 2001, was in the latter half of the second semester of his senior year, set to walk the stage in May 2003 with a degree in finance. He sported a GPA around 3.5 and even had a job lined up with Wells Fargo, but after years of careful planning, McCollum threw caution to the wind.

Wells Fargo was not his future, McCollum decided. He wanted to coach basketball.

Now, McCollum has led Northwest men's basketball to six straight MIAA titles, four consecutive conference tournament championships, a 35-0 record this season and an appearance in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight.

What the Bearcats have done this season, which includes sweeping their way through their schedule while starting two freshman guards, seems as remarkable as it does unlikely.

Perhaps the most impressive and improbable facet of Northwest's dominant run — which has

stretched not only over the last 35 games but more-so over the last half-decade — is McCollum's path to where he is now: on the cusp of his second national championship.

Before McCollum was a basketball coach, and before he ever thought about being one, he was a number of other things.

McCollum was an all-state guard at St. Mary's High School in Storm Lake, Iowa, where he thrived as a sprinter on the track, earned all-conference honors in baseball and, at some point, learned the names of all 99 counties in Iowa in alphabetical order. He fielded full scholarship offers from multiple Division II hoops programs as a member of the class of 1999.

But McCollum was chasing Division I dreams and elected to go the JUCO route, spending the first two seasons of his collegiate career at North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City, Iowa. He earned all-region honors as a freshman and a sophomore but didn't receive the traction he'd hoped he would on the transfer wire. McCollum chose to attend Division II Northwest.

"(I) ended up on a partial scholarship, actually, I think it was a \$3,000 scholarship here at Northwest," McCollum said. "I went from fulls to a \$3,000 scholarship to Northwest, but they won. Then

I came here, and I didn't play as much as I would have liked."

In terms of playing time, McCollum's residence at Northwest was not what he wanted it to be. But the time McCollum spent on the Bearcat bench paid dividends, McCollum said.

"I learned this probably the hard way when I came to Northwest Missouri State: when I came, my first I think three or four games, I didn't play a second," McCollum said. "I didn't play a second ... and then kind of had to work my way in and play a little bit and still didn't play the minutes I would have liked."

The experience gave light to something McCollum had never gone through before. To him, the concept of not playing was foreign. He had been a lot of things in high school and at North Iowa, but he had never been a benchwarmer.

To McCollum's surprise, not playing was, in some ways, harder than being a starting guard.

"I learned the importance of those guys that don't play a lot because that's a heck of a lot harder to do than playing 30 minutes a game," McCollum said. "You can, as somebody that doesn't play a ton, you can take a team down really, really quick."

It's the reason McCollum so often credits players like senior Dray

Starzl and junior Daric Laing, who average less than seven minutes a game, for their ability to remain positive. Externally, McCollum said, it seems easy. But it's easier said than done.

"No one from an outside perspective understands that you're keeping a good attitude, because it's like, 'Well, that's what you're supposed to do,'" McCollum said. "Well, try it. It's not that easy."

Through his time as a Bearcat, of course, McCollum met Steve Tappmeyer, the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame coach he would later replace.

McCollum described how lucky he is that he got to work beneath and alongside Tappmeyer at Northwest, but the good fortune extends both ways, Tappmeyer said.

Tappmeyer and his staff didn't do all their homework on McCollum when they took him on as a transfer from North Iowa. They knew he was a good basketball player, Tappmeyer said, but they didn't really know much about his character.

"We probably got a little bit lucky," Tappmeyer said.

McCollum panned out. His play was never in doubt, really, but he had all the intangibles Tappmeyer wanted in his players. He was diligent, he worked hard, and he was a great teammate.

One day in McCollum's two-

year tenure as a player, he came down with the flu. Knowing that if he told Northwest's trainers about his illness he would likely be held out of that day's practice, McCollum drove himself to the hospital and got an IV so he could suit up.

"That was something that afterward I looked back and thought, 'God, how many guys would have done that?'" Tappmeyer said.

Despite McCollum having all of the intangibles, Tappmeyer never really viewed him as a coaching prospect. The reasons were simple: he was a finance major with a post-graduate job lined up at Wells Fargo, and he seemed to have everything planned out.

McCollum was never on Tappmeyer's radar, the Hall of Famer said, until one day, well-after McCollum's senior season came to an end, he walked into his coach's office with a change of heart.

"He walked in and said, 'Coach, I've been thinking it over, and I want to, I want to be a coach,'" Tappmeyer said. "And first of all, with as good of a student and everything with his degree, I thought he was crazy. So I was like, 'Hey, if you want to do this, we'd love to have you.' We knew he'd be good at whatever he did. And he did it, and evidently, it was the right choice."

SEE MCCOLLUM | A11

## McCollum's Path Home

